

Harold Martens earns *Lieutenant Governor's Award for Outstanding Service to Rural Saskatchewan*

ON MARCH 15, 2023, THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AWARD for outstanding service to rural Saskatchewan was presented to the late Harold Martens of Swift Current, SK. Accepting the award on his behalf was his wife, Sylvia and son, Chad. Chad delivered the acceptance speech on behalf of the family.

Harold was born in Herbert, Saskatchewan on Sept 8, 1941. In 1960 he completed high school at Stewart Valley and went ranching with his dad and brother. Harold married the joy and love of his life, Sylvia Schroeder in 1966 and they have three boys and seven grandchildren.

In 1973 Harold was elected councillor in the RM of Saskatchewan Landing and in 1975 to 1978 served as Reeve for the RM. During this time he was elected to the SARM Board of Directors and served on it in 1977 and 1978.

In 1982 Harold was elected as the Member of the Legislature for the constituency of Morse serving until 1995. During this time he served as Legislative Secretary to the Deputy Premier, the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Rural Development. In 1989 he was appointed to be the Associate Minister of Agriculture which included responsibilities for Sask. Water Corporation, the Souris Basin Development Authority seeing the completion of the construction of the Alameda Dam.

In 1999 Harold was elected Councillor in the RM of Excelsior No. 166 and became Reeve in 2005. He served in that position until fall of 2022 when he resigned due to health reasons.

Harold joined the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association and was President from 2011 to 2014. He worked to establish the Livestock Price Insurance, transition of PFRA to the patrons and began the long road to set up land easement trusts for producers. Harold became co-chair of the committee to provide the basis of the action that the Department of Agriculture wanted to move livestock inspection to the private sector. The Livestock Services of Saskatchewan was established to handle all livestock inspections, brand registry and bonding for livestock dealers. Harold served as chair until resigning in October of 2022.

Harold sat on the Saskatchewan Cattlemen Association Board of Directors. The Board appointed him to various committees such as Farm and Food Care of Saskatchewan and Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef Framework Committee. Harold was elected to the Executive as Finance Chair. The Saskatchewan Cattlemen Association also appointed Harold as their representative to the Board of Livestock Services of Saskatchewan.

Harold served on both the Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards and the South Saskatchewan River Watershed Stewards for several years. Harold also served on the Prairie Pioneers Independent Housing.



Harold Martens

Councillor, 1973-1975

RM of Saskatchewan Landing No. 167

Reeve, 1975-1978

RM of Saskatchewan Landing No. 167

Division 3 Director, 1977-1978

SARM

MLA, 1982-1995

Morse Constituency

Councillor, 1999-2005

RM of Excelsior No. 166

Reeve, 2005-2022

RM of Excelsior No. 166



Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan



His Honour Russ Mirasty presenting The Lieutenant Governor's Award for Outstanding Service to Rural Saskatchewan posthumously to Harold Martens (accepted by Sylvia Martens).